

Serial No. 09/694293

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Kuehn	Examiner:	V. Nguyen
Serial No.:	09/694293	Group Art Unit:	3731
Filed:	October 23, 2000	Docket No.:	01610.0113-US-I1
Title:	MITRAL AND TRICUSPID VALVE REPAIR		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.6: I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (Fax Number 703-872-9302) on August 29, 2003

Michele Read
Name

Michele Read
Signature

SECOND COMMUNICATION REGARDING UNINITIALED REFERENCES ON
FORM 1449

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant is in receipt of a non-final Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent Office on May 29, 2003 but has not received notification that references submitted to the Examiner with two previous Information Disclosure Statements have been considered. Applicant is requesting the Examiner initial the Forms 1449 in the space provided to indicate that these documents have been considered. The details follow.

Applicant filed a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and Form 1449 citing four patents on November 9, 2001. Since Applicant's representative had not received acknowledgment of these references, a communication addressing this issue, courtesy copies of the Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, and the return postcard with a Patent and Trademark date stamp of January 10, 2002, indicating receipt of these materials, were submitted to the Patent Office on April 28, 2003 when

responding to an Official Action. Copies of these documents are being resubmitted herewith for the Examiner's review and convenience.

A further Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and Form 1449 citing five U.S. patents was filed on May 14, 2003. To date, Applicant has not received acknowledgment of these references; therefore, copies of the Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, transmittal sheet containing a 1.10 mailing certificate and having a mail date of May 14, 2003, and return postcard having a PTO date stamp of May 19, 2003 are also being forwarded with this communication.

Applicant is not submitting copies of the references at this time. However, if the Examiner deems it necessary, copies of the cited prior art will be resubmitted.

Attorney for the Applicant states the above-referenced copies are true copies of the originally mailed correspondence.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner promptly return copies of the initialed Forms 1449 to the Applicant's representative with the next Office communication.


If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact the undersigned attorney of record, Hallie A. Finucane at 952.253.4134.

Respectfully submitted,

Altera Law Group, LLC
Customer Number 22865

Date: August 29, 2003

By:


Hallie A. Finucane
Reg. No. 33,172
HAF/mar

Serial No. 09/694293

**REPLY UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 3731
PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Title:	MITRAL AND TRICUSPID VALVE REPAIR		

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

April 28, 2003
Date

Michele Read
Name

Communication Regarding Uninitialed References on Form 1449

Box AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant is in receipt of an Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent Office on January 27, 2003, but has not received notification that all of the references submitted have been considered. Applicant requests that the Form 1449 be initialed in the space provided to indicate that this document has been considered. The details follow.

Applicant filed an Information Disclosure Statement on January 19, 2001. A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was filed on September 6, 2002. Applicant received initialed Form 1449s indicating the Examiner's acknowledgment of these references with the July 31, 2002 and January 27, 2003 Official Actions respectively. However, acknowledgment of another Supplemental IDS and Form 1449 citing four references thereon, filed on November 9, 2001, has not been received.

Applicant is submitting a courtesy copy of the Information Disclosure Statement and Form 1449 filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on November 9, 2001 with a copy of the return postcard showing a Patent and Trademark

Office date stamp of January 10, 2002, indicating these documents were received. Applicant is not submitting copies of the references at this time. However, if the Examiner deems it necessary, copies of the cited prior art will be resubmitted.

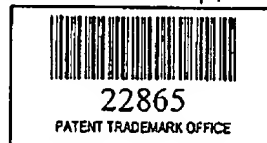
Agent for the Applicant states that the above-referenced copies are true copies of the originally mailed correspondence.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner promptly return a copy of the initialed Form 1449 to the Applicant's representative with the next Office communication.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact the Agent for the Applicant, Fredrick T. French III at 952-253-4123.


Respectfully submitted,

Altera Law Group, LLC



Date: April 28, 2003

By:


Fredrick T. French III
Reg. No. 52,524
FTF/mar